Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 269569 ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 MCE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /092 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:WEATON:DC APPROVED BY AF/S:DKPETTERSON

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O P 102109Z NOV 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN PRIORITY
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EINV, ESTC, SF, US

SUBJECT: REPORTED SAG ASSERTION OF POWERS TO FORCE FOREIGN FIRMS IN SOUTH AFRICA TO PRODUCE STRATEGIC MATERIALS.

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MINISTER HEUNIS IN A NOVEMBER 9 SPEECH IN DURBAN ANNOUNCED THAT EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 11 THE SAG WOULD HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO FORCE FOREIGN COMPANIES OPERATING IN SOUTH AFRICA TO PRODUCE STRATEGIC MATERIALS. HEUNIS IS QUOTED AS STATING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT THIS ACTION WAS "ONLY AN ENABLING MEASURE" AND EXPRESSING HOPE THAT IT WOULD NOT BE INVOKED ,IN MORE THAN ISOLATED CASES." HE ALSO REPORTEDLY STATED THAT THIS MEASURE WAS "NOT IN THE FIRST PLACE OR EVEN AS AN IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION AIMED AT THE MANUFACTURING OF ARMS". THIS SAG ACTION WOULD BE AUTHORIZED UNDER LEGISLATION ADOPTED IN 1970.

2. HEUNIS' REMARKS HAVE GENERATED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST HERE. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE FULL TEXT OF HEUNIS' REMARKS AS WELL AS THE EMBASSY'S ANALYSIS OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE SAG ACTION FOR FOREIGN SUBSIDIARIES, PARTTCULARLY IN VIEW OF THE MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, BUSINESS FIRMS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 10-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Decaption Note:

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: ECON, EINV, ESTC, SF, US

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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